'SNAP INTO IT,' PLAN ADOPTÉD BY WAR DEPT

Reorganized System of Administration Puts "Pep" in Office Force.

Has Instituted Methods Which Proved Effective With Staff of Pershing.

Snap and precision; shun obstructions; keep things moving toward results; "can do, will do," sums up in every-day English the propelling directions back of the 'Var Department today. Overseas headquarters methods which made Chaumott, France, a center of smooth-working, forward-going activities, have been adopted by Secretary Weeks, who was looking in that direction when he selected General Pershing for his chief

The old casual atmosphere of the War Department is gone and in its place there is apparent a business like trend which is even noticeable in the corridors of the State, War and Navy binlding in the absence of officers passing in and out of swinging doors. They are kept busy at their desks and the messengers are doing the walking of corridors.

Weeks Starts Plan.

The new method got its start when Secretary Weeks late in July sent a memorandum addressed to the chief of staff covering the President's interpretation of the Army reorganiza-This view in effect disected General Pershing to take up the biggest task of his career, get the Regular Army down to bed-rock, build up the National Guard, and reconstitute the divisions of his victorious army and organize them into the reserve.

Just a month ago the Secretary placed his approval on the plan for organizing the General Staff, and also drew the line sharply between the General Staff and the Adjutant Gen eral's Department in an order which left no doubt as to the policies and regulations under which both were to operate. The General Staff plan simply threw out as obsolete the plan under which the War Department had operated since the world war, replacing it with the scheme which had proved correct in the experiences in France In order to give General Pershing free hand for the larger activities, Maj. Gen. James G. Harbard was des ignated Deputy Chief of Staff, to act for General Pershing at any time and allowing him to report direct to Secre tary Weeks and to supervise the business of all the divisions in the War De

The staff designations used at Chaumont were adopted. G-1 replaces the former personel division; G-2, the military intelligence: G-3, the operations and training, and G-4 the supply divi-For the G-5 division, there i now the War Plans division which is constantly at work on plans of offense and defense. This division is the most important for this reason: When war comes it moves into the field under General Pershing as commander of the armies and starts work as his field general headquarters. This means that for any emergency the oficers who have worked on war plans and studied all posible situations during peace will be ready to start for the scene of action, establish headquarters and take hold of all activities of the

army immediately.
At its head is Col. Bryan H. Wells, of distinguished service in France, who in the field becomes the commanding general's chief of staff. The officers under him take the direction of the divisions, G-1, G-2, G-3 and G-4, and the same divisions here in the War Department go on as usual without being disturbed by war except to the extent of sparing members of their staffs for the field headquarters. The bulk of the expansion in the field staff, however, will come from the Army

Plan Is Very Simple.

It is all very simple and places the War Department in peace on a war footing so that when war comes there will be no serious disturbance in the department organization, as there was when war on Germany was declared in 1917. At that time every officer belonging to a combat branch quit the department as soon as he could get relief and joined his branch for ac tive service in the field. Under the new plan officers on department staff duty will be retained, while only the war plans division moves into the field. In attending a fixed method for both peace and war, the War Departmen has profited by the world war ex perience and the commanding general so has gained an experienced and efficient staff immediately available for strategical employment in the theater of hostilities.

The new scheme went into effect on September 1 and it has worked smoothly from the start. Officers on duty in the War Department are enthusiastic over the change because the plan designs every man to definite duty and charges him with certain authority. He is constantly doing work that has an important bearing on the army's activities in the war, and the average officer finds the change agreeable and feels that he is accomplishing something having an influence on the national preparedness. It is "all on paper." to be sure, but the "paper" is redeemable in war at par. The General Staff is now a working organization, confining its activities in working, de veloping and execution of the army's program in military operations. It has been shorn of all administrative duties and now devotes all its time and energies to the emergencies of war, preparing for mobilizing, organizing, supplying, equipping and training the army for use in the national

In the last analysis, the War Department under Secretary Weeks is performing its work as a war office. and the Secretary is certain that the plan now in operation will never have to be changed or seriously modified. It merely puts into practice the best lessons of the World War and sets up an organization which in time of stress can be expanded in an orderly manner to meet any situation requiring a major or minor effort in defense or offense.

3 Children Burn to Death.

TAPPAHANNOCK, Va., Sept. 17 .tenant house on the farm of J. P. aliaferro, near Caret, Va., occupied Marshall Coleman, colored, was 'estroyed by fire at an early hour n the morning, and Coleman's three children were burned to death

Democracy at Stake In N. Y. Traction War, Says Hiram Johnson

Hiram W. Johnson, United States Senator from California, vriting in The Forum for September on "New York City's Problem," discusses the transcendent importance of the issues created by the new State traction law, its secret purposes, its death blow to city home rule and its vital bearing on the forthcoming election. The Senator who was retained by Mayor SEC. WEEKS RESPONSIBLE Hyland of New York as special counsel for the city to fight the attempt to raise fares through legislative enactment, denounces the measure that creates a State-appointed traction commission and asserts that "it suggests regulation and enacts

> NEW YORK CITY'S PROBLEM. By HIRAM W. JOHNSON.

> N ancient proverb tells us that A Truth could be found only at the bottom of a well, but her seekers gazing down too often found out their own faces refleceted, and left firmly convinced they had made the great discovery.

So in political campaigns, not infrequently, our prejudices, our in terests, our partisanship, our vanity sway our judgments, and we fond ly imagine that in the reflection of vhat most concerns ourselves we have found the righteous side and are struggling for the triumph of

There are, however, elements in the present New York campaign quite out of the ordinary, issues divorced from partisanship, which compel the interest of the thought ful and the activity of the patritotic

In these issues personalities and politics may be eliminated. Indepen dent citizens, believers in popular government, the men and women who constitute the great marticulate mass, and who desire only their country's welfare and preservation of its cherished institutions, have real questions now before them.

A combination of circumstances made New York the battle has ground for the fundamental princi ples of democracy; and these funda mentals must be rightly decided with out regard to the politics of the situation or the personaltiees involved.

"Infamy of Traction Law."

The first of the issues, of transcendent importance to the city of New York, and of only less impor tance to every city and every locality in the country, is the new Traction law. If, with impunity, the greatest city of the nation can be deprived of its property and robbed of its inher ent right to govern itself, a precedent will have been set which com plaisant or corrupt Legislatures will not be slow to follow.

It is true that the traction bill was heralded as a Republican policy, sponsored by a Republican Govern nor but it was never part of a Republican platform, nor otherwise han by traction companies made Republican measure. No candidate in the State campaign, preceeding its introduction in the Legislature, even hinted at such a law. No party advocated it; no platform mentioned

Whatever may have been the secret purposes of its progenitor. they remained secret during the campaign, and the people voted in ignorance that their right of self government was threatened. nothing better demonstrates the infamy of this Traction law than the fact that no candidate in the present local election in New York City will espouse it and all political parties

SPURNED BY SPONSORS. Certain Republicans in the Legis-

lature at the behest of certain boses, who in turn acted at the behest of traction companies, voted for the bill. The same members of the Legislature and the same boses now re pudiate it. Their belated repudiation is not enough; they themselves should be so thoroughly repudiated that neither legislator nor boss will ever again dare to commit such an offense against the people. present attitude of these legislators and bosses illustrates what has ever followed in our political life.

A job can be perpetrated in a Legislature: even a job which takes the property and destroys the rights of a people. With the aid of newspaper allies the job may be brazenly cynically and arrogantly committed; but how all the offenders scurry to cover when there is an accounting before the people! Where are the advocates of the Traction bill in

this campaign? While the legislature was in session, it wasn't difficult for concentrated power and wealth and their journalistic allies to send train loads of exultant individuals to Albany in behalf of a traction bill for the enriching of private corporations. It was of little consequence to gentlemen of easy conscience that the greatest city in the world should be deprived, in dealing with railroad



companies, of every vestige of selfdetermination or home rule

Driven Into Hiding.

Where are these merry people today? Where are the speakers who talked in Albany of seven-cent fares and the necessity of having a State appointed board rewrite the contracts of New York City, and, without the people's con-

sent, take their property? As this is written, every candidate is against the traction bill; every citizen's combination repudiates it; every party denounces it. Ignordesigning men may job the people with a legislature. daren't even attempt to justify the job when it is up to the people themselves. And just here is the second fundamental issue presented.

The vice of the Traction Bill is not in its pretense at regulation, for the right of regulation under the ordinary circumstances requiring it, must be conceded. Far beyond regulations does the bill go. It suggests regulation, and enacts confiscation It authorizes the rewriting of the city's contracts, the abrogation of old contracts and execution of new. CITY'S POWERS USURPED.

The State-appointed Transit Commision may make terms and conditions which the city must obey in its relations with the railroad companies, may require payment by the city of any amounts the Transit Commission may ask, for any purposes of the commission, and the amounts must be paid without itemization or detail of any sort. The commission is authorized without hearing of any kind, temporarily (and this may practically be indefinitely) to increase fares.

Jurisdiction of the streets of the city substantially is conferred upon Albany's appointees. But outrageous as all these things are, worse even than requiring the treasury of the city to respond, without knowledge by officials or citizens, to every demand of the Commission, is the destruction of the right of the people to govern themselves, of the principal of home rule.

Of course, in this day of reaction, it is neither fashionable nor scarcely permissible to speak of home rule for cities or for peoples. But there s a vital principle in local government, without which democracy is a mockery, and this principle has gradually become known as Home

By the Traction Bill, when contracts are to be altered or new ones made with the railroad companies, they must be submitted to the corporations and to the city. The corporations may accept or re-fuse. The city can only accept. If the city does not consent, then the Commission executes the contracts in the name of the city. And this, too, may be in respect to the city's owned by it, and upon which it has expended three hundred millions of

Of course, in an article of this sort, there can be neither legal argument nor a detailed analysis of the law. Suffice it to say, under an act now repudiated by the party which it was originally asserted sponsored it, now denounced by every candidate and political organization, an act which before the people had neither apologists nor defenders. New York City is deprived of the right to deal with its own property and the most cherished privilege of American life, self-government, is denied to seven million people.

If the law is as indicated, or if it s in any aspect a hundredth part as bad as described, now, when the people themselves for the first time may express themselves, it presents an issue, serious and all-important,

properties -the subways

dollars.

Home Rule Rights Gone.

60,000 Patents Nearly fifty years ago one of the most eminent of American jurists, Judge Cooley, disposed of such a law in this apt language:
"The State may mold local insti-

tutions according to its views of policy or expediency; but local government is a matter of absolute right, and the State cannot take it away. It would be the boldest mockery to speak of a city as possessing municipal liberty where the State not only shaped its government, but at discretion sent in its own agents to demoralized condition. administer it; or to call that system one of constitutional freedom under Patent and trade-mark cases which it should be equally admis

FEAR OUTRAGED PUBLIC.

No longer novel or original is the course followed by exploiting power or wealth. When a bill like the Traction Law appears in a subservient legislature, the cunning men behind it know they must not be content with the easy victory before the people's representatives, but they must look to the future to prevent any overthrow of their will by an

sible to allow the people full control

in their local affairs or no control

the answer to which must be made

in no uncertain tones.

indignant and outraged public. To them representative government (that is, where they control the representatives) is not a mere fetish, a shibboleth to conjure with, but a palpitating necessity of their profit. They and their allies of the press frown upon popular expression, no words can adequately express their contempt for the idea that the people should pass upon what most intimately concerns them.

Reaction depriving the people of what is theirs requires reaction precluding the possibility of the people

righting the wrong. When it was certain the Traction Bill would pass, it was prophesied by the experienced that this sort of spoilation would be followed by the endeavor to curtail the political rights of the people, and the events immediately following the passage of the bill justified the prediction. No sooner had the act been put through than an attack was made upon the direct primary. While in all its phases the direct primary was not destroyed, it was limited in its scope and rendered much less efficacious The old stock arguments, which have been so often disproved, were utilized to the full in the very short period of discussion.

The direct primary, of course, has its faults, but, after all, it is democracy. The convention system has its faults of another character, much more menacing to our institutions. Whatever may be the ills resulting from direct nominations, they represent the will of the electorate. And, under our system, the people have the right to decide their own fate politically—the right not only to elections, but the right in nomina-

Johnson's Remedy.

And just a word may be permitted concerning such laws as the traction law, and that impairing the direct primary. There is anly one way in which the people may be protected from them. In the hot enthusiasm of personal candidacies it is difficult at times to separate issues. Upon mere personalities may turn the event, and because personal passions and prejudices may have their part in elections, often momentous questions affecting the people may be undecided or forgotten.

disinterested should seek some remedy against iniquitous exploiting laws and those which deprive voters of their political rights. There is a remedy, and an effective remedy. It is the initiative and ref-If New York State had the initiative and referendum, no public official would dare espouse, legislature would dare pass such a traction law; and if a legislature were so far recalcitrant, under a referendum, the remedy would be speedy and certain.

The objection to the initiative and referendum and substantially the objections to direct nominations. The people haven't sense enough, it is insisted, to pass upon laws most intimately concerning them. The Assemblyman from the most remote county in the State of New York, and the Senator from the least populous district, neither of which may be within shotgun distance of a trolley line, may intelligently pass upon the street railway problems of New York City, but, according to the distinguished gentlemen who arrogate to themselves the right to govern the rest of us, the people of New York City are utterly devoid of the business acumen, or the in-telligent discrimination with which the country legislator is so richly endowed.

Give New York the initiative and referendum and there will be and

Delayed, Due to Lack of Help

THE American patent system, foundation, of American industry, which has produced untold billions of wealth, is in a

are piling up because of the lack of competent examiners, and the office now is confronted with 60,000 of these cases, which are being held up indefinitely.

The result is that it now takes an unreasonably long time to secure a patent, and inventors run the risk of having their ideas grabbed by large concerns long before they can secure a patent.

"The failure of Congress to increase the force of employes and their salaries is the cause of the demoralized condition of the Patent Office, and legislation is absolutely necessary to lift the office out of its present hopeless condition," said Assistant Commissioner Fanning yesterday.

end of legislative interference with New York City, an end of spoliation

of its people And so in the present campaign of the Empire City of the World, those who trun from mere personalities or individual candidacies may whole-heartedly devote themselves to real and vital issues affect ing not only their property, but their daily lives, to fundamental princi ples, the destruction of which makes a mockery of democracy.

GREAT BRITAIN SELLS ALL SURPLUS TEXTILES

England has succeeded where the Inited States has failed in disposing mercial Attache Dennis at London commerce.

"The British government officially advises," Mr. Dennis stated, "that to \$170 per month for maintenance they have disposed to a British syndi-books cate all textiles remaining over from million pounds

FRATERNITY OPPOSED TO TO FRIENDS WEARING PINS

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 18.-The Delta Epsilon fraternity frowns on the practise of Greek letter men permitting vomen acquaintances to wear their 'frat' pins.

VETERAN OF 4 WARS PASSES 95TH YEAR

Maj. Junius T. Turner Served as Commander of Lincoln's Bodyguard.

Major Junius Thomas Turner, vet eran of four wars, who commanded a bodyguard which escorted Presi-dent Lincoln from the White House to the Soldiers' Home here, is nine ty-five years old and ready to die. "I am drawing to the close of my career," the major remarked casually on his ninety-fifth birthday anniver sary. I have no qualms about death As a matter of fact, I'm perfectly indifferent about the whole thing-don't care whether I'm living o dead-but I wouldn't commit sui-

Major Turner's first visit to Wash ngton was during the Administraion of Andrew Jackson, and he renained in the Capital long enough to vitness the inauguration of Martin Van Buren. Washington was a dirty ittle city, sunk in a mud hole in hose days, and the major wonders sometimes at the transformation that has taken place in the span of his

own life. The major's record of active par the Mexican war, 1846-48; the Rogue River, Oregon Indian war, 1853; Confederate tribes of Oregon and Washington Indian war, 1855-56, and the civil war. He was awarded the title of colonel for his bravery the Civil War, but has never assumed the rank. "I'd rather be a major—I won

that rank," he expains. When Major Turner served as ommander of President Lincoln's bodyguard he became acquainted photographer. Brady gave him a york, and Frank Johns, Brooklyn. the President's carriage drove Turner asked the Executive to auto graph the picture, which Lincoln did.

1,432 DISABLED VETS BEING TRAINED IN D. C.

There are 1,432 disabled veterans in the District of Columbia undergoing rehabilitation, according to a state-ment issued today by Maj. Leon Fraser, acting director of the Veterof its enormous surplus stock of tex 1,432 trainees, 297 are taking profesans' Bureau. Out of the total of tiles left over from the war, Com- sional courses. Commercial courses in local business schools have attracted esterday cabled the Department of 279 of the veterans. However, the largest number, 856, are taking in dustrial training.

Men in training receive from \$100 and support besides their tuition and

Of the total number of men the war for a sum exceeding three training in the District of Columbia today, 1,226 are in Section II training, which means that the Veterans "It is the understanding that the Bureau is paying these men full main syndicate intends to dispose of this tenance and support pay in addition to stock largely in continental markets." free training and books. The remain der of the men are in Section III training, receiving free tuition and books but no maintenance pay.

Use Emperor's Pool.

VIENNA, Sept. 17.-The splendid private swimming pool formerly used by the Emperor in the park of Schon brun, the summer palace, has been It went on record to that effect dur- opened to the public. Thy bath is ing a session of the eighty-seventh an-nual convention being held here. eighty-two yards long and is set in white marble and mirrors.

Raymond Robins Looks to Women to Purge Politics

WAUKEGAN, III., Sept. 17. EN have had nearly 2,000 years to bring the principles of Jesus Christ into politics and make ideal forms of government, but they have made "a bad botch of it," Raymond Robins declared before the Women's Trade Unionist

"Now that women have a chance at the ballot," he added, "they have a chance to do better and I hope they will take advantage of it."

NINE HEAVYWEIGHTS IN AMATEUR RING TOURNEY

NEW YORK, Sept. 17 .-- Up to date seventy entries have been received for the monster boxing tournament to be held by the Metropolitan Association A. A. at Madison Square Garticipation in four wars is believed by den on Monday and Tuesday even-him to be unequaled. He served in ings, September 26 and 27. The boxing committee of the association has decided that owing to the large entry the first bout will go on at 8 p. m. sharp. There will be from fifteen to twenty bouts held each night In the novice heavyweight class there are nine entries, namely: Au-

gust F. Wydeen, of West New York N. J.; George Hovan, Raritan, N. J. Dominic Pope, New York; Robert J. Sheehan, 69th Regiment, N. Y.; Ben-jamin F. Butler, Brooklyn; Fred Land, New York; George Reynolds, a member of the foundation, the basic Brady? the famous civil war New York; Alfred E. Zeedon, New fee has been placed at the lowest pos

WOMEN ORGANIZE FOUNDATION IN N. Y.

Committee of Fifty to Start Campaign for Membership at Early Date.

Organization of the State of New York for the purpose of increasing membership in the Woman's National Foundation, is now under way, it was announced today from the national headquarters in this city.

Headquarters have been secured at the Hotel Plaza, to be opened October 3 where Leland Sterry will place the full facilities of the hotel at the disposal of Foundation workers. A committee of fifty women is now being nominated by Mrs. Hoffmann to assist in the organization, including

some of the most distinguished names n Manhattan. The organization will be done by boroughs subdivided in areas identical with the school dis tricts. In each of these a resident woman will be appointed to direct the local work, receiving a certificate of appointment enabling her to select such workers as she may chose. At stated intervals, the workers in each borough will convene at the Hotel Plaza headquarters to report progress It is understood that similar headquarters will soon be opened in Washington and twelve other cities of the United States. In addition, a series of lectures is planned to be given in clubs and societies here outlining the work of the foundation. Speaking of these lectures, Mrs. Calhoun the President "This is woman's day beyond doubt. Her most vital problem is to find the full measure of her resources and marshal the strength of her collective intelligence." In order that every woman in America can become







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